

My brothers and sisters,

As we began this season of Lent last Wednesday; we were reminded in the Gospel of three aspects which are able to help us grow **spiritually: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving**. As we begin this Lent which falls in this Mercy **Extraordinary Jubilee of Year**, I invite you to examine where in your daily routine where you may focus on prayer, spending a few extra minutes with the Lord. Regarding fasting, where are we able to abstain or remove something extra in our lives, which we are able to offer up to allow us draw our attention closer to God and those who are in need and away from our own desires. Finally, let us look toward how we can give in charity to others, especially those in need. Let us take these wonderful helps of prayer, fasting and almsgiving and ask the Lord to help us grow closer to Him with His grace so that we may help show mercy to the world around us.

#### Lenten News...

Wednesday evening **Mass at St. John the Baptist at 6:00 p.m. followed by a simple supper to support local Catholic charities within the Diocese of Columbus.**

**Friday beginning at Noon, Deacon Felix will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross, followed by Benediction at St. John the Baptist.**

**Confessions** will be available before **Weekend Masses** and before the **Wednesday Evening Mass** and by appointment.

Please stay tuned for further information regarding Lent and the schedule for **Holy Week and Easter.**

#### Church Regulations Regarding Fast and Abstinence:

**Abstinence** from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen years and older on **Ash Wednesday** and on **all Fridays of Lent**. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat.

**Fasting:** Limit oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are eighteen years of age but not yet fifty-nine are obliged to fast on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. Eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted.

Have a great week!

Fr. Tony Lonzo, Associate Administrator  
of Sacred Heart and St. John the Baptist

#### MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sat., 2/13 SH	4:00 p.m.	Tony Solazzo by Irene Solazzo
Sun., 2/14	9:30 a.m.	Violet Dell Italia by M/M Frank Centofanti
Wed., 2/17	6:00 p.m.	Mary Rossetti by M/M Jeff Baker
Sun., 2/21	9:30 a.m.	Maria Camperchioli by M/M Mike Ricci

#### Blessed Sacrament and Marian Lights Intentions:

**Marian: Mary Rossetti** by the Blessed Mother Sodality

**Blessed Sacrament: Joyce Tisone** by Carl Tisone

#### EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sun., 2/14/2016	<b>RCIA</b> – 10:00-10:30 a.m. Breaking Open the Word – Library <b>RCIA Session</b> 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – Library <b>Confirmation Preparation Class</b> 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Classroom 1 11:00 a.m.– Le Donne Carnivale after Mass Marrapese Hall
Mon., 2/15/2016	<b>Italian Village Men's Faith Sharing Group</b> 6:00 p.m. (Marrapese Hall) <b>SJB Women's Faith Group</b> 6:00 p.m. (Classroom)
Wed., 2/17/16	<b>6:00 p.m. – Lenten Mass</b>
Fri., 2/19/16	<b>Noon – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> , followed by <b>Stations &amp; Benediction</b>

*Please remember in your prayers those who are sick or suffering, especially those who are in Hospitals, Nursing Facilities or Homebound suffering.*

#### PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS\*\*

**THE BARRINGTON OF CARMEL** – CARMEL, INDIANA: Yola Rossi

**COUNTRY VIEW** – SUNBURY: Viola Del Greco

**MOTHER ANGELINE McCrory:** Marie Tarantelli

**HOME:** Judy Pishitelli

*\*\* If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input.*

#### 2016 LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS READINGS

**February 14 – First Sunday of Lent**

*Dt 26:4-10/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13*

**February 15 – Lenten Weekday**

*Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46*

**February 16 – Lenten Weekday**

*Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15*

**February 17 – Lenten Weekday**

*Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32*

**February 18 – Lenten Weekday**

*Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12*

**February 19 – Lenten Weekday**

*Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26*

**February 20 – Lenten Weekday**

*Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48*

**February 21 – Second Sunday of Lent**

*Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Phil 3:17-4:1/Lk 9:28b-36*

\* Pray for our Priests and seminarians.

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S**

February 7, 2016

Number of Envelopes Used – 62

In Envelopes: \$2,258.00 Loose Money: \$793.00

Regular Collection: \$ 3,051.00  
 Less Diocesan 6% Assessment (\$ 183.06)  
 \$ 2,867.94

Votive Lights \$ 25.00  
 Solemnity of Mary \$ 10.00  
 Join (Ash Wed) \$ 30.00  
 St. Anthony Bread \$ 72.00  
 50/50 \$ 100.00  
 \$ 237.00

**? \$ ? \$ ? HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING? ? \$ ? \$ ?****Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/15-6/30/16)**

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Week:	\$ 2,885.00	\$ 3,051.00	\$ 166.00	6%
FYTD:	\$ 92,320.00	\$ 90,197.20	(\$2,122.80)	-2%

**SJB Collection Counters****for Monday, February 15, 2016**

Mary Spellacy, Genevive Knouff, Carl Tisone

**Columbus Catholic Women's Conference: Mercy Changes**

**Everything:** The 9th annual Columbus Catholic Women's Conference will be held at the **Ohio Expo Center** in the Voinovich Building, **February 20, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** The conference provides opportunities for women to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, to grow in their realization of their dignity as Catholic women, and to strengthen their commitment to be a disciple of Christ. You may preregister at [www.ColumbusCatholicWomen.com](http://www.ColumbusCatholicWomen.com) for \$35.00 or purchase tickets at the door for \$40.00.

**Save the Date!** On **Friday, March 18, 6:30 p.m.**, join us for the first annual **Charles Agriesti Memorial St. Joseph's Table Dinner**. In honor of our friend the late Charlie Agriesti who for so many years led this annual feast we will gather together. Dinner will be served in **Sala Hall** catered by **The Berwick**. More details and ticket information coming soon.

**Applications available for the Father Casto Marrapese Scholarship Program – Deadline; Friday, April 1, 2016.**

**St. John the Baptist Italian Catholic Church** announces the **2016 Father Casto Marrapese Scholarship Program**. If you are a high school senior student of Italian descent, attending a central Ohio high school, and accepted to an accredited two- or four-year College or university in the U.S. for the 2016-2017 academic years, you are encouraged to apply for this scholarship opportunity. Application information has been posted on Saint John's web site [www.info@sjbitaliana.com](http://www.info@sjbitaliana.com) and has also been sent to central Ohio high school guidance counseling offices. All application materials (application form, activity listing, personal recommendation letter, school recommendation and transcript, and personal essay) must be received at St. John's no later than **2:00 p.m., Friday, April 1, 2016**. For information, call **St. John the Baptist Catholic Italian Church** at 614-294-5319.

**AROUND US**

**Sons of Italy News:** The Sons Of Italy is sponsoring a trip to "The Shrine of The Most Blessed Sacrament" on **April 8, 2016**, returning **April 10, 2016**. There will be an overnight stay with dinner and show in Nashville, TN. **\$279.00 per person** also includes hotel in Hanceville, AL. Anyone interested please contact **Gus Gastaldo** at 475-1388 or **Sos Codispoti** at 614-582-7366

**Enjoy a Lenten Fish Fry:**

- **ST. PATRICK CHURCH:** 280 N. Grant Avenue, Columbus, Each Friday; February 12-March 18, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- **ST. ANDREW CHURCH:** 1899 McCoy Road, Upper Arlington, Each Friday; February 12-March 18, 4:30-7:00 p.m.
- **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:** 414 E North Broadway, Columbus (Marian Hall), Each Friday; February 12-March 18, 5:00-7:30 p.m.
- **ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH:** 6077 Sharon Woods Boulevard, Columbus, Each Friday; February 12-March 18, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- **ST. MATTHIAS CHURCH:** 1582 Ferris Road, Columbus, Each Friday; February 12-March 18, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
- **SETON PARISH:** 600 Hill Road N., Pickerington (Parish Activity Center), Each Friday; February 12-March 18

**Masses of Healing**

Healing Masses are being offered throughout the year. All Persons who seek healing: cancer, heart, all physical illnesses and infirmities are invited, as are family members, caregivers, and medical professionals. A schedule for these Masses is below: **Monday, March 21** (6:30 p.m.); **Monday, May 16** (6:30 p.m.); **Monday, July 18** (6:30 p.m.); **Monday, September 19** (6:30 p.m.); **Monday, November 21** (6:30 p.m.) at **St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad Street** (614-224-1295/[www.saintjosephcathedral.org](http://www.saintjosephcathedral.org)).

***Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. Let no one try to separate them; they cannot be separated. If you have only one of them or not all together, you have nothing. So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others you open God's ear to yourself.***

***When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you want God to know that you are hungry, know that another is hungry. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give. If you ask for yourself what you deny to others, your asking is mockery.***

– *Saint Peter Chrysologus*

**Lenten Prayer**

***God of all creation, we welcome You into our lives in a new way this Lent. We are ready to serve Your people, especially our brothers and sisters who are most in need. We are ready to live out Your call to mercy.***

***Through our prayers, fasting and Lenten gifts, we may learn to walk as one global human family. May we learn to listen to each other, and in so doing hear the merciful words of Christ. Amen***